

Jim, K4CGY, wrote:

Well Jim, that might be true for your neck of the woods, but you can't speak for the rest of the world. I love 10M, and spent alot of time tuning both SSB and CW portions of the band throughout the contest. I heard, couldn't work, one weak CW station on Sat. THAT WAS IT!! Maybe Texas used up all available ionization, but I couldn't have made a contact running a kilowatt, much less qrp.

I know, be patient, another 3 years, and we may have some fun on this band again. In the meantime, I am still waiting for the day I can exchange 10-10 numbers with LB.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: Dick G0BPS <dick@kanga.demon.co.uk>
Subject: [1286] 80m net?
Message-ID: <329@kanga.demon.co.uk>

Hi gang,

I am all in favour of more QRP activity
but to hold a net on the 80m centre of activity/
calling frequency? I question this choice.
Surely it would be better to move this up/down
a little to leave the 'calling freq' clear for
all those who may not wish to join the net.
At the stated time, 10pm EST there is still a
(rare) path from Europe to the US.

TTFN de Dick (grp-1 206)

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*****
*
*   Dick GOBPS / GOROO KANGA PRODUCTS   *
*
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* The UKs biggest supplier of great *
* QRP kits and simple test equipment *
* *

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: Harvey Winters <ve1hdw@fox.nstn.ca>
Subject: [1301] antenna and tuner help
Message-ID: <199512132256.SAA25821@Fox.nstn.ca>

Hi Gang:

I am building 102 foot centre fed antenna.I want to use
450 ohm ladder line.No problem you say.

Well this is my problem.How long or how short should this
ladder line be?And I want to use a balanced tuner.

I have two 365 variable capacitors, 1 single and the other
one is a dual section.What can I build with these for a tuner
using homebrewed plug in coils to suit the above antenna?

I am hoping to get some good ideas and from watching this
group in the pass I am sure I will get some good advice.

Merry Christmas and happy New year to One and All.

72/72 de Harvey

Harvey D Winters VE1HDW
ve1hdw@fox.nstn.ns.ca
G-QRP #8973 NE397 CQC177
QRP ARCI #8963 QRP-L #115

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)
Subject: [1271] Article in QST on THP HT-750
Message-ID: <199512122303.PAA17280@netcom3.netcom.com>

In october of 1993 (or 1994?) QST carried an article written by a person

reporting on the Tokyo Hy Power HT-750 SSB/CW portable. Would someone care to make me a copy of the article (I've misplaced that issue of QST...)

73 Dave WB0GAZ dgf@netcom.com]

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: NYOUNG@desire.wright.edu
Subject: [1278] Concerning the QRP Mascot
Message-ID: <01HYR3RAJLQW8ZNZPA@desire.wright.edu>

Which reminds me of one of my favorite first sentence in a novella (actually, I have three favorites, but that's another thing... funny how two of 'em are about animals):

"As Gregor Samsa awoke one morning from troubling dreams, he found himself in his own bed, turned into an enormous bug."

(Ok, the second and third are: "Many years later, as he faced the firing squad, Colonel Aureliano Buendia was to remember that distant afternoon when his father took him to discover ice." [Check out how the time shifts back and forth from past to future to past and into the present.]

and: "I used to think a lot about the axolotls."

First is from Kafka, naturally. Second is the first sentence in Gabriel Garcia Marquez's One Hundred Years of Solitude. Third is the first sentence in a marvelously written opening paragraph of Julio Cortazar's "Axolotl.")_

73
Nils
WB8IJN
(Animals? We don't need no stinking animals.)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Subject: [1285] Counter people es Fox
Message-ID: <951213104944_71794965@emout05.mail.aol.com>

Great story Joe. MVB's are apparently the same all over the country. You do remind me of one of my favorite counter-person arguments.

In my fatter days I used to like to go to Roy's over near City Hall in

Manhattan for their Bacon/Cheeseburger/fries/drink cholesterol special.
Here's me:

--I'd like a B/C/f/with a Coke special

--Uh huh, you want the special. You know prices may vary in Manhattan, sir.

--Well, do they or don't they?

--Do they or don't they what?

--Vary.

--Sir, prices may vary.

--Yes, well, do they or don't they?

--Do you want the special, sir, or what?

Nils, are you listening?

Reminder, I will be the Fox tomorrow night (Thursday in the US) and, as I am on the East coast, starting time is 8:00pm EST. Look first in the novice seg for the first 15 min to half hour, and then down below 7040 a cycle or two.

Beginners, I will gladly slow down, so do call. Equipment will be an original NW40 (5W) with narrow filter and Norcal Sierra (2W) if the band is a little gentler.

Preston WJ2V

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [1299] DATA SHEET: Coax Cables
Message-ID: <199512132204.PAA23412@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

DATA SHEET: COAXIAL CABLES (Major Types for HF listed only)

TYPE	RG-8	RG-8A	RG-11	RG-58	RG-58A	RG-174	Mini-LAN	CATV
Belden#	8214	9251	8213	8240	8259	8216	9907	9913

CENTER

CONDUCTOR Bare Copper or tinned copper all types

AWG	11	13	14	20	20	26	20	9
Stranding	7/19	7/21	Solid	Solid	19/33	7/34	19/32	Solid
Diameter	.108	.085	.064	.032	.035	.019	.037	.108

INSULATION

Dielectric	Foam	PE	Foam	PE	PE	PE	Foam	Foam
Diameter	.285	.285	.285	.116	.116	.060	.100	.285
SHIELD	Copper or tinned-copper single layer braid all types							
Efficiency	97%	97%	95%	95%	96%	88%	93%	100%
JACKET	Black PVC jacket all types							
Diameter	.405	.405	.405	.193	.195	.101	.182	.405
IMPEDANCE	50	52	75	53	50	50	50	50
VEL. FACTOR	.78	.66	.78	.66	.66	.66	.80	.84
pF per foot	26	30	17	29	31	31	25	24
dB ATTEN								
at 10MHz	.5	.5	.3	1.2	1.4	3.3	.8	.4
at 50MHz	1.2	1.3	1.0	3.1	3.3	5.7	1.2	.9

RG-8 and RG-58 is the most common 50-ohm coax used for amateur HF use. RG-11 and RG-59 (similar specs) are 72 ohm coax used for feed matching. RG-174 (and Mini-LAN) are miniature 50-ohm coax cables. (Neat for QRP). LAN (Local Area Network), Mini-LAN, Ethernet, etc. are coax cables used for computer network distribution and are becoming an available surplus item for HF work. Just ensure it is not the 105, 130 or 150 ohm type! CATV 50-ohm coax is another source of good surplus coax, provided it has not been excessively weathered. Insulation is either (PE) Polyethylene or FOAM Polyethylene as listed.

Dimensions (diameters) listed for the center conductor, insulation and outer jacket is important for selecting proper BNC/PL-259 type connectors.

GL de Paul NA5N
CQC#133 QRP-L# 38

This information is submitted for QRP-L subscribers; it may be used by others (including QRP journals) with proper credit. A QRP Data Book containing these data sheets, in more detail, is "in the works." Stay tuned for more details.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: roy.gregson@usfamily.wa.com (Roy Gregson)
Subject: [1307] FOX ?

Message-ID: <9512131722574715@usfamily.wa.com>

Hi All.....Been reading the mail about the FOX, and finally Lee came up with the perfect description. It really is a SNIPE hunt. I have had the frustration that many have expressed not only with the FOX, but the new 80 meter net. I have to confess that I look forward to the FOX hunt, but for some reason always manage to get the times and/or days screwed up. Being on the west coast with PDST, and generally poor conditions, I need some help. I picture that help in the form of a schedule that is simple, easy to understand and reliable. Someone needs to take on the responsibility of making up the sched's with local times for each time zones and freq's. Actually I thought I had it made when someone put the times in UTC, but I naturally got the wrong day. You see, I always thought that 0115 UTC was 0115 UTC anyplace in the world. But I never considered that the day may be different. The 80 meter thing sounds good, and I was on the freq listening hopefully, heard many 8's and 4's, worked a few, but none knew about any 80 meter QRP net. Foiled again. So could someone volunteer to come up with a method - form - schedule - times that even I could understand and follow. I'm not volunteering, I cannot even keep the days straight.....I know from what I have seen on this net that there are others with the same problem.

ROY W6EMT

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: Larry East <LVE1@inel.gov>
Subject: [1280] FOX Tales...
Message-ID: <9512131521.AA11531@garnet.inel.gov>

On 12 Dec 95 Michael Connor wrote:

> Things started out well enough; got home plenty early, checked the antenna,
>rig, all systems go. Tuned up the OHR, band sounds kinda weird, but its early,
>right? 0300 comes along, call CQ, fellow AZ ScQRPion member Floyd NQ7X comes
>back, off and running! Call CQ, nuttin...Call some more, more
>nuttin...Hmmm...It would be over an hour before my next contact with Bob,
>AK5B coming in STRONG. Couple minutes later Henry, W5HNS comes pounding in.
>Thought the band was changing for the better but was not the case. Worked a
>couple of the local guys before Larry, KA5T came in and practically knocked
>me off my chair. I'm convinced these Texas guys have pooled their resources
>and come up with their own F layer of the ionosphere, you always hear 'em
>good. Perseverance award of the night has to go to WD4MPS, Gene, in
>Birmingham, AL. I heard him call 3 times over the 2 hour period but the noise
>ate him up. Right at 0500 we managed to exchange name,rst,qth. Good work
>Gene, I was rootin for you.
>

Up here in Idaho I thought I actually heard the FOX once or twice, but maybe it was only ESP propagation. I heard the Texas stations loud and clear; maybe its all the hot air (and/or meadow muffin gas...) generated down there that does something to the ionosphere! I also heard the AL station once, but not much else except an occasional CA station. Maybe 40M has gone south for the winter...

72, Larry W1HUE/7 in the Idaho Outback.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Subject: [1267] Fox, 12/14
Message-ID: <951212205041_131741003@emout05.mail.aol.com>

Gang,
Posting this Tuesday night to allow for the digesters (hopefully).

This is my first up as Fox Thursday night EST:

One single stop at 7110 for first 15 mins. of the hunt--will stay up to 15 mins more if calls keep coming.
Rest of time 7040 +/- 5 and more toward the minus if possible.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: Bensondj@aol.com
Subject: [1284] Green Mountain series rigs
Message-ID: <951213104746_132146580@mail02.mail.aol.com>

Hi Gang-

This is to let you know that the "Green Mountain" series of monobander CW transceivers is ready to go. I'm presently shipping 30, 20 and 15 Meter versions, and 17M and 40M versions are pending. I'll be verifying the 17M version over the holidays; this flavor should be available by December 30th. Due to the interest in 17M here lately, I'll post a report as soon as it's ready.

If you hadn't seen earlier postings, here's a summary of GM-series characteristics:

- Monoband Operation
- 100 Khz coverage nominal
- High stability

- Heterodyne LO
- Temperature-compensated varicap tuning
- 2.5W output power
- Improved audio- LM380 output
- Effective crystal and front-end filtering.
- Interconnect to controls uses 0.100" headers
- built-in RIT

* Currently available as a Board Kit

High-quality 3.5" x 5.0" PC board

- Double-sided, PTH, masked & silkscreened
- All on-board parts
- Selected crystals
- 18-page Manual

* A high-quality enclosure option will be announced shortly. This product will feature a handsome extrusion enclosure with silkscreened front panel legends.

The board kit is currently available for \$72 postpaid , US and Canada, \$75 overseas. Please contact me for further information.

73, Dave Benson, NN1G
(Small Wonder Labs)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: Clark Savage Turner WA3JPG <turner@safety.ICS.UCI.EDU>
Subject: [1264] Hum in supply/spkr
Message-ID: <5761.818822363@safety.ics.uci.edu>

A simple problem, I suspect. I have the Ten Tec power supply with speaker built in. When I power up the supply, the speaker gives an audible hum. The hum is not through the audio amp in the rig, it seems to originate in the line to the speaker. It increases when the rig is on and when I transmit (current draw).

I have not gone in to re route the speaker line, but that is what I plan to do. Any other tips?

Clark

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: rac@usa.net
Subject: [1290] Hum in supply/spkr
Message-ID: <199512131747.KAA00828@mail.usa.net>

<---- Begin Included Message ---->

>A simple problem, I suspect. I have the Ten Tec power supply with
>speaker built in. When I power up the supply, the speaker gives an
>audible hum. The hum is not through the audio amp in the rig, it
>seems to originate in the line to the speaker. It increases when
>the rig is on and when I transmit (current draw).

>I have not gone in to re route the speaker line, but that is what I
>plan to do. Any other tips?

>Clark

I'll bet your hum has something to do with a ground loop. Some of
the operating current is passing through the speaker ground. See if
there is a ground connection to the speaker in the power supply. If
so, temporarily disconnect it and see if the hum goes away. If it
does, problem solved, if not, looks like you will have to check
further.

-73- -Lee WA3FIY-

<---- End Included Message ---->

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: W3ZIF@aol.com
Subject: [1270] MFJ-9020 MODIFICATIONS
Message-ID: <951212191625_52346951@mail02.mail.aol.com>

To all those who responded to my plea:

Today I got the chance to get into my 9020 and try to replace capacitors C32
and C33 in order to alleviate my slight drift problem. Upon opening the unit,
I noticed that C32 and C33 looked exactly like the new ones that MFJ had sent
me.

The only difference was that the ones already in were marked 470J and underneath were the letters TSC. The new ones were marked 470J and underneath it was marked 50V.

At this point I was at a loss so I called MFJ and spoke to Mr. Brian Bishop who sent me the capacitors sometime back. I told him that my unit was over 2 years old, was not under warranty anymore and I had picked it up at an estate sale. The original owner only had it a short time prior to his death. Brian told me that it looked like the newer caps were already in as the old ones were blue in color and these were silver in color. However, he said I could send the unit back since they have made other minor changes in the circuitry that will eliminate the drifting even more so. He said it would probably cost around \$35.00 as a service charge plus whatever additions are made to the unit.

Since my unit really doesn't drift that bad or that much, I think I will just let well enough alone. Another problem that did develop as I was putting the unit back together again was the red dial pointer loosened up and was swinging freely on the tuning shaft. After some real effort plus some 3 in 1 oil, I did manage to get the main tuning knob off but I really had to struggle to pull it off the shaft. I then tried to figure out how to get this pointer back on again and in looking at it, it seems it was just glued to a round pad that extends a little bit out from the front panel. So a little dab of household cement was applied and so far it seems to be doing OK. I did retune the VFO slug (L3) and with the use of a Sony ICF-2001 receiver and a Radio Shack frequency counter was able to get it on the proper frequency although it was not off by that much.

Many thanks to you all for your time in trying to get this unit up to snuff. I wish each of you a very merry and joyous Christmas and a happy, prosperous and healthy new year.

Best 73/99 to all of you.

Roy - W3ZIF

P.S. MFJ does have an 800 number for any technical problems you may have. It is

1-800-647-8324. Unfortunately, I tried for several hours today to get through and all I got was a busy signal so I decided to call their regular number at (601) 323-5869. I was transferred to Mr. Bishop's own number which is (601) 323-8287 and was able to talk with him personally.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995

From: "'AB7HI' Stephen Lee" <slee@u.washington.edu>

Subject: [1269] Propagation test

Message-ID: <Pine.A32.3.91j.951212172105.115840A-100000@homer11.u.washington.edu>

Hello all,

We're having one doozy of a storm here in the northwestern US.

Conditions should be good for reaching Alaska QRP'rs from the

lower 48 tonight. Seattle will experience maximum winds at 0300 UTC. Plucked the Butternut vertical out of the ground for safe keeping. I will be listening but not transmitting.

Briefly heard the FOX, NQ7K, signing off with NQ7X last night. That was it as far as the foxhunt went. QSO'd briefly with John, KC7CKP, in nearby Port Orchard. Lights are flickering so I'll QRT right here.

73 es good luck from Tacoma, Washington...25 miles south of Seattle.
Stephen Lee, AB7HI

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
Subject: [1272] QRP Mascot
Message-ID: <199512130432.VAA13750@usr4.primenet.com>

Geoffrey Geduld <ggeduld@frontier.canrem.com> wrote:
> How about QRPers being known as Hobbits? Friendly little creatures of the
> under powered world!!!! (Known to be exercising their "hobbi").
>
> de VA3GEG / Geoff in Toronto, Ontario

Hmm... Then there are their excessively hairy feet and their rumoured tendency to mug squirrels in dark corners of the woods. Terrible poetry too... :-)

Intriguing idea though. How goes our "hunt" for a mascot, anyway? Chickadees seem too, well, cute and fuzzy. Which is fine I suppose, but I guess I was leaning toward some small, persistent critter that always seems to get the upper hand despite its apparent disadvantages. Meerkats are interesting critters that seem to fit the bill, though admittedly not very well known in the mainstream. Wombats? Arctic fox?

Welcome to QRP-L, Geoff!

73/72 de KC7NEV,
-Joe, Who writes terrible poetry and has hairy feet, but has (to date) never mugged a squirrel.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logicraft.com>

Subject: [1289] qrp mascot

Message-ID: <199512131720.MAA23315@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Eeeeew! We've foresaken mascots that one would be proud to have in and around the shack for symbols of squallor. I've never been that fond of Vibroplex's logo even though I know it's supposed to be a lightning bug. Cockroaches, fleas, etc. may (in the abstract) have their admirable qualities, but picked to represent QRP as a whole would allow less friendly groups to refer to QRP as the vermin of the ham world. No thanks.

Chickadee, si. Ringworm, no.

>>>==>PStJTT

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=====
Patrick Taber                      Email: ptaber@logiccraft.com
Principal Software Engineer        Phone: (603) 880-0300
Logiccraft Information Services    Fax: (603) 880-7229
22 Cotton Road                   QRP-L: 215
Nashua N.H. 03063                Also known as: KC1TD
```

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995

From: BWHITTEM@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com

Subject: [1279] qrp mascot !!!!!

Message-ID: <0cedd950@mailgw.sanders.lockheed.com>

what else could flea power advocates choose but the
flea!!!!!!

barry

wb1edi 30 meter qrp sw3040 and indoor dipole
please listen for me.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995

From: "John T. Croteau" <jt@comsol.org>

Subject: [1266] RG-8X

Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951212210105.1694B-100000@aurora.comsol.org>

Could someone fill me in on the specs of RG-8X and is it suitable for our
QRP work? HF thorough 6 meters?

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John T. Croteau - A.R.S. KA1VIX      | Ten-Tec Argo 556 and Linux
From Beautiful Minneapolis, Minn.    | A rather stylin QRP Station!
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From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
Subject: [1273] Saga of QRP Vanity Plates
Message-ID: <199512130616.XAA18708@usr1.primenet.com>

QRP Tales II: The Saga of the Vanity Plates

Howdy all,

Seems that anything I do related to QRP becomes an interesting adventure.... Wish I could say I exaggerated some of this, but it's all very (oddly) accurate.

Early last May I ordered some personalized license plates (QRP-related) from the friendly folks at the Arizona MVD. 8-10 weeks, they said. Perfect! Be moving into our new house around then, and I'll be back on the air. Great way to inaugurate my reentry into hamming.

12 weeks pass, getting a bit edgy. Finally I get a notice in the mail from the MVD. Wahoo! They're ready to pick up! No, no such luck. Seems the friendly clerk left a few blanks on the form and HQ has sent the form back to me so I can fill out that stuff I was told not to fill out. Humph!

August comes and goes, then September and October. Sheesh! At least I'm on the air with my new call and have picked up a total of 24 states as an Arizonan (Arizonian? Arid-Zonan?).

Finally, early November, six months after this all started, I get a notice from the MVD. Holding my breath I shred the envelope to get at the contents. They're ready! The plates are ready! Merry Christmas!

Next morning I cheerfully enter the local MVD. The friendly clerk takes my paperwork and shuffles into the back office. Minutes pass. Many minutes. Eventually she surfaces for air and asks me to confirm my name. Hmm. OK. She goes away again. Still more minutes pass. She comes back looking rather confused and gets on the phone.

Time marches on. Progress on my plates does not. Finally she gets off the phone and explains that my plates are lost. Lost?!? How do you lose a set of personalized, QRP-related license plates after taking half a year to produce them in the first place?!? Disaster strikes again! AAAARRRRGH!!!

She's very nice and understanding. She makes more calls and gives me

the direct phone number to the Personalized Plates Police or whoever searches for missing plates. Five agonizing days later, I get a call. They've found my plates at an MVD office across town. "Would you like us to send them to your local office?" My lungs force out a deafening "N00000!!!!" as my head is filled with visions of my plates being delivered to a colony of confused woodchucks somewhere in Manitoba.

Next morning I drive across town, not quite wanting to get my hopes up. The office is empty, save for an elderly gentleman nodding off in the lounge. My eyes fall upon a sign that says "Special Plates" and I immediately march over, a new-found spring in my step. "Excuse me," I say to the woman under the sign, "I'm here to pick up my plates."

"I'm sorry sir, you'll have to wait in the line." I turn my head to view the room. No line. No people. Only the old man dozing in a chair and myself. A puzzled look falls over my face. I turn back to the clerk, cocking my head like a Springer Spaniel who's just seen its master do the ol' disappearing tennis ball trick.

"The post sir. You'll have to wait over by the post." OK. I begin to question whether I've unwittingly stepped onto the set of the latest Monty Python production. I take two steps over to the Sacred Post of Passing Time. This little ritual must be part of the local custom they failed to cover in the AAA guides to Arizona. My anthropology minor in college is paying off at last.

Another woman materializes a few windows down, far away from the "Special Plates" sign, but she utters the magic words....

"Can I help you?"

"Yes," I say, "Do you handle personalized plates?" Don't want to give up my place in that long line if she's not the right clerk, after all.

"Can I help you?" she says again. Hmm. OK. Maybe her hearing's a bit off. Tragedy, since she seems to only be about 30-35 years old. "Yes," I say again, a bit louder this time. "Can you help me with specialized plates?"

"Can I help you?" she echoes a third time, adding a sense of urgency and anger to her voice. The old man stirs a bit and chuckles. I really am expecting to turn around and see John Cleese perfecting a Silly Walk, or perhaps arguing with me over whether or not I came in for an argument (apologies to those unfamiliar with Monty Python's odd brand of comedy).

Bringing my full anthropological training to bear, I finally identify her as (if you'll please forgive the colorful language) a member of the rare Who-Peet-In-Your-Wheaties clan. A smarmy lot, most commonly found nesting in bureaucratic offices, its best to humour them and play their game until you get what you need.

Ten minutes of shuffling and joyless expressions later, she produces the long-awaited, now nearly-legendary plates. As I leave I smile and wish her happy holidays. She grunts.

At last the long quest has come to an end (for the storyteller as well as the patient reader!). I install one of the plates on the back of the car (AZ only requires the back plate) and save the other one to place over my station. The words "QRP HAM" now proudly adorn both my car and shack. All is well with the world. Now I merely wonder how long it will be before someone stops me in a parking lot to ask me if I deliver honey-baked hams for dinner parties.

Thanks for hanging in there and reading my tale. Figured we could use a break from the Great HB and Antenna/ERP Debates of '95.

Best of the holidays to you all. Hope to hear you on the air.

73 es 72 de KC7NEV (ex-KD6PRD),

-Joe, vole@primenet.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: "Ted Kell" <kell@mpac.jsc.nasa.gov>
Subject: [1287] Sealed Cell Charger
Message-ID: <199512131705.MAA36141@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

After reading Chuck's note about the \$15 lead acid cell charger he found at EPO, I was in the neighborhood and checked it out. There are now (as of last night) 4 left. There are also about 10 or 12 smaller units that output 500ma.

I don't get over there very often, it is quite a bit out of the way. Sometimes it takes a prodding to go see what one has available...

72

Ted
KC5CUW

Ted Kell (kell@mpac.jsc.nasa.gov)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995

From: ruswhite@netwest.com (Russell W. White)
Subject: [1302] update - OHR Explorer II 30M
Message-ID: <199512132318.QAA23454@saguaro.netwest.com>

At 10:00 AM MST on Wed, 12/13 I spoke with Dick at Oak Hills Research. The 30 Meter Explorer II's are now being shipped (mine was shipped 12/12 but I'll be in Conn. by the time it arrives.).

Dick informed me of a parts change, and here it is.

There is a 100 ohm trimpot which is supposed to be round and white. to expedite the rigs it is being replaced with an upgraded model which is square and dark blue and has 100 ohm written on the side. It will mount in the board with no problems.

73, Russ

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|-----|
| Russ White AB7JX (ex WB1GQG)  QRP-ARCI  NORCAL  NEQRP |
| Phoenix AZ                      |
|                               QRP-L #179 |
|-----|
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From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: ruswhite@netwest.com (Russell W. White)
Subject: [1306] W1FB's active CW filter
Message-ID: <199512140123.SAA25494@saguaro.netwest.com>

In the 1991 edition of "W1FB's QRP Notebook" on page 68 is a schematic of a CW filter. There are six 2200 pfd matched polystyrene capacitors. How close do the caps have to be matched? One catalog has 5% polystyrene caps. Is this close enough or should a larger quantity be purchased and a cap checker used?

tnx & 73 Russ

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|-----|
| Russ White AB7JX (ex WB1GQG)  QRP-ARCI  NORCAL  NEQRP |
| Phoenix AZ                      |
|                               QRP-L #179 |
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From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: smohan@telenet.com (Sam Mohan (cont))
Subject: [1283] When doen one get the latest QRPP?
Message-ID: <9512131514.AA05462@orchid.telenet.com>

Does anybody now when one expects to receive latest QRPP?
Or have people already received their Dec. 95 issue?

Tnx.

73 Sam N3UTM
SMohan@Telenet.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: bmitchel@kodak.com (Brad Mitchell)
Subject: [1294] Whitrook key impression.
Message-ID: <9512131855.AA06301@iiatasun.cba.Kodak.COM>

Well, I got one, (Iambic version). It was part of a trade..
no loss right?

Well, All I have to say is, neat toy. Could be used for backpacking
type situation when you don't want to worry about dumping your kent key
into the drink etc.

When I go camping next time, I'll use if for sure..
Now if my wife took the hint for the kent key, for Christmas, I'm in
business.

73 Brad WB8YGG

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: "Arjen Raateland, SYKE/YV, puh. 90-4030 0457" <Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi>
Subject: [1297] wire for wire antenna
Message-ID: <01HYRXK0IHL8Y6HPI@vyh21.vyh.fi>

Hi gang,

Would it be a workable idea to use teflon coated wire wrap wire for a
portable aperiodical HF dipole antenna for QRP afield? I thought to
make the feed line by twisting the same wire. The teflon would make
the contraption stronger than equally thin enameled wire and it has

good isolation properties (for the transmission line part). The twisted pair would be thin enough to allow feeding through small openings like between window and frame. I also expect the teflon to stay more flexible than most other plastics in freezing cold weather. The idea is to tune the antenna with a balanced ATU.

But would it work? I don't even have a sample of the wire yet ...

I have two antennas based on the same design using heavier wire and/or 450 Ohms flat line, but they are too cumbersome to carry or too stiff to roll and unroll many times, so I'm looking for a cheaper and better solution.

Arjen Raateland, OH2ZAZ

Finnish Environment Agency, Helsinki, Finland
SAS Support
EMAIL: Arjen.Raateland@vyh.fi
tel. +358 0 4030 0457
fax +358 0 4030 0490
-.-. -.-

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: prvalko <prvalko@Oakland.edu>
Subject: [1295] Re: 80m net?
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.951213135938.8089A-100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Wed, 13 Dec 1995, Dick G0BPS wrote:

> Hi gang,
> I am all in favour of more QRP activity
> but to hold a net on the 80m centre of activity/
> calling frequency? I question this choice.

I was not going to say anything regarding the 80M QRP-L(?) frequency, but now that that genie has been let out of the bottle, I guess I can...

I would like to have seen it held on the "Color Burst" frequency so all the Pixie users could have a shot at it. I *think* that's 3.579KHz.

It also would be wise to avoid a time conflict with W1AW :-)

=paul=

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: prvalko <prvalko@Oakland.edu>
Subject: [1296] Re: 80m net?
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.951213143915.16371A-100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Wed, 13 Dec 1995, prvalko wrote:

> I would like to have seen it held on the "Color Burst" frequency so all
> the Pixie users could have a shot at it. I *think* that's 3.579KHz.

3.579 MHz As they say, post and die.

=paul=

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: eighmy@scott.net
Subject: [1304] Re: 80m net? - Colorburst Freq
Message-ID: <199512132329.RAA23540@koala.scott.net>

On Wed, 13 Dec 1995, prvalko wrote:

>> I would like to have seen it held on the "Color Burst" frequency so all
>> the Pixie users could have a shot at it. I *think* that's 3.579KHz.

>3.579 MHz As they say, post and die.

I second the motion... It would be nice to get some more activity on that
freq...

Gene
wd4mps

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: [1303] RE: antenna and tuner help
Message-ID: <n1393246755.96822@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

Harvey,

I suggest you try to get a copy of the CQ magazine articles where Bill Orr
W6SAI, discussed the Z match tuners. Some of these were 1994, and perhaps one

in 1993 CQ. (I am at work, and don't have mine close to check.) They have appeared in numerous VK, ZL publications, and probably in Practical Wireless or Radio Communications at one time or another. Basically, if your capacitors have spacing of a receiving type they will probably be OK for QRP power levels, and then you have to make only one coil with one capacitor tapped on the coil. The idea is to link couple out of the coil. The whole coil and one capacitor resonate to the lower ham bands, and part of the coil and the other capacitor covers the higher bands, a dual resonant tank circuit. There are other details, but I am just giving you an overview. The value of C and L has to be large enough for parallel resonance at the lowest frequency with the whole coil.

Now, it does not matter how long the 450 ohm ladder line is, for you will be tuning it and the antenna combined to resonate into whatever ham band you want. It may not tune 160 with this shorter than half wave length, but some report getting on 80M this way, of course with limited bandwidth. The antenna will certainly give gain at 20M and higher.

The 102 foot flat top, (dipole part), is not resonant on any ham band except perhaps a harmonic resonance, thus a tuner is required. This type of antenna is sometimes called a McCoy dipole after Lew McCoy, who wrote for QST, and advocated putting up as much horizontal wire as possible, feeding it in the middle with open wire line and letting the tuner put you on whatever band you want. Just keep the ladder line away from metal and put a twist in it every couple feet to balance out any coupling from nearby conductors, which you should cross at right angles on stand off insulators, such as going past a metal gutter of a house.

Commercial tuners could be used for this application as well, and the caps you have could be used for a Tee type of unbalanced tuner with a balun, but having one dual section cap makes this an ideal Z match application. Link coupling like the Z match uses was traditionally used with open wire feeds in earlier years of radio before coax.

Maybe someone on the list has a better memory of the Z match circuit or the pieces in CQ. Maybe a library near you has back issues, or another ham. I am surprised no commercial copy of it has appeared as it requires fewer tap switch positions, and thus is less costly than Tee tuners.

72, Stuart K5KVH
rohre@arlut.utexas.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: "Robert J. Gobrick" <rgobrick@public.compuserve.com>
Subject: [1288] Re: Concerning the QRP Mascot

Message-ID: <199512131705.NAA03852@public.compusult.nf.ca>

Hi Nils,

Your three favourite sentences tend to be QROish with all those words. Now let's see... from Ogden Nash...

"Do you want my jellyfish - I am not sellyfish..."

"And God created the fly - But did not tell us why...."

Now that's some kind of QRP writing - and Ogden even mentions the flea - which does not rhyme with why....

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

At 08:44 AM 12/13/95 EST, you wrote:

>Which reminds me of one of my favorite first sentence in a
>novella (actually, I have three favorites, but that's another
>thing... funny how two of 'em are about animals):

>73

>Nils

>WB8IJN

>(Animals? We don't need no stinking animals.)

>

>

Bob Gobrick	V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB	Newfoundland, Canada
QRPer	Galore - QRP	ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP
Internet:	bgobrick@terra.nl.net.nf.ca	
	rgobrick@public.compusult.nf.ca	
Compuserve:	70466.1405@compuserve.com	

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995

From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com

Subject: [1291] Re: Counter people es Fox

Message-ID: <951213125431.23222631@carib.vf.mmc.com>

Preston, you wrote, in part:

>--I'd like a B/C/f/with a Coke special

>--Uh huh, you want the special. You know prices may vary in Manhatten, sir.

>--Well, do they or don't they?

>--Do they or don't they what?

>--Vary.

>--Sir, prices may vary.

>--Yes, well, do they or don't they?

>--Do you want the special, sir, or what?

And then:

>Reminder, I will be the Fox tomorrow night (Thursday in the US) and, as I am
>on the East coast, starting time is 8:00pm EST.

Gosh, what a juxtaposition! I'm almost afraid to call you (assuming I can even HEAR you). The exchange is likely to be something like:

CQ FOX de WJ2V K

WJ2V de N2CX K

N2CX.....QRZ?

N2CX de WJ2V QRZ?

WJ2V de N2CX Yes, Preston I'm calling you. BK

BK OK are you sure you are calling me? KN

BK RRR UR RST 569 in NJ, OP JOE BK

BK OK JOE RST 569 right? BK

And so on. Guess it's kind of like having a meaningful dialog with your teenager.

The thing that frightens me the most is that we may not get consensus on RSTs because propagation conditions may vary...

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: "David D. Meacham" <ddm@datatamers.com>
Subject: [1305] Re: DATA SHEET: Coax Cables
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.91.951213151157.8308B-100000@dt1.datatamers.com>

Paul,

Great info! You might want to add RG-58C/U to your list, though. Its the preferred version of RG-58 these days because of the non-contaminating jacket.

72, Dave, W6EMD

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: scalawag@ids.net
Subject: [1293] RE: MASCOT
Message-ID: <199512131855.NAA59198@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Gang,

I cast my vote and all my proxies on the mythical(?)
Snipe. In fact, the Fox Hunt is perhaps an exact
replica of the Snipe Hunt.

72, Lee

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: k8dd@sun.tir.com (k8dd)
Subject: [1308] RE: MASCOT
Message-ID: <9512140231.AC28169@tir.com>

>Gang,

>

>I cast my vote and all my proxies on the mythical(?)

>Snipe. In fact, the Fox Hunt is perhaps an exact

>replica of the Snipe Hunt.

>

>72, Lee

>

>

>

And when you get a picture, I'll add my vote and all my proxies....

73 Hank

*/

*/ Hank Kohl K8DD k8dd@tir.com

*/ MI-QRP QRP-ARCI G-QRP NorCal

*/ ARRL/lm QCWA/lm QCAO/lm

*/

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995

From: "M. Limtiaco" <limtiaco@u.washington.edu>

Subject: [1292] RE: QRP FS

Message-ID: <Pine.A32.3.91j.951213104929.54277f-100000@homer31.u.washington.edu>

Thanks to everyone who responded to my list of QRP equipment FS. All the items are now either sold, or I'm waiting for a final response from interested parties.

73s to all-

Matso Limtiaco N7DUB

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995

From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>

Subject: [1274] Re: QRP Mascot

Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.951212224033.14128A-100000@vortex>

Joe,

Ahhhhh, more with less, always wins in the end no matter what the "Big People" try.....

COCKROACH.....

| -)

73, Ron,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....

...ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Sun Valley, Nevada.....

...QRP-L #17....ARRL....NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: Joe Gervais <vole@primenet.com>
Subject: [1275] Re: QRP Mascot
Message-ID: <199512130704.AAA16382@usr3.primenet.com>

Monte "Ron" Stark, <ku7y@sage.dri.edu> wrote:
> Ahhhhhh, more with less, always wins in the end no matter
> what the "Big People" try.....
>
> COCKROACH.....

Good Lord, I think you've got it! And easily acceptable into the ham community - heck, we're already using bugs with our rigs. And even after you step on them, they still keep scurrying about (ala QRO Klingons and digital crickets trying to crush us). Small and compact too, not to mention that they can survive on nothing more than the glue of envelopes (low power drain).

Ron, you're a genius! I second the Cockroach!

*8-)

(Yes, it is in fact well past my bedtime...)

73/72 de KC7NEV,

-Joe, vole@primenet.com

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: cebik@UTKVVX.UTCC.UTK.EDU
Subject: [1276] Re: QRP Mascot
Message-ID: <Pine.PMDF.3.91.951213073001.543759610C-100000@utkvx.utk.edu>

On Tue, 12 Dec 1995, Joe Gervais wrote:
> I guess I was leaning toward some small, persistent critter that always
> seems to get the upper hand despite its apparent disadvantages. Meerkats
> are interesting critters that seem to fit the bill, though admittedly not
> very well known in the mainstream. Wombats? Arctic fox?
QRPers are gregarious, but still individualists in their pursuit of success. Unfortunately, meerkats are almost too interdependent and

succeed by group effort rather than individual initiative. Arctic foxes are so independent that they come together to breed but not much more. A mascot should reflect the largest possible range of the parent group's traits (unless we are seeking a totem animal instead of a mascot). And of course, a mascot should not present the group with an image problem by name or appearance. The word "wombat" might do that, as might the appearance of other creatures, such as an octopus (though exceptionally ingenious and intelligent). However, in the history of mascots, not a one has managed to please everyone in a group: would you believe that some military academy folk do not like mules and goats as mascots? USAF was glad to find the falcon. In fact, most mascots mostly happen rather than being well-planned. So let's see what happens.

-73-

LB, W4RNL

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: Pete Hardie <hardie@duke.usask.ca>
Subject: [1281] Re: QRP Mascot
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.951213093123.14900A-100000@duke.usask.ca>

On Tue, 12 Dec 1995, Joe Gervais wrote:

> Intriguing idea though. How goes our "hunt" for a mascot, anyway?
> Chickadees seem too, well, cute and fuzzy. Which is fine I suppose, but
> I guess I was leaning toward some small, persistent critter that always
> seems to get the upper hand despite its apparent disadvantages.

Gotta be the FERRET. We even use the word as a verb - to ferret out DX.

73 de Pete
ve5va.qrp@usask.ca

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [1265] Re: Request for advice on end fed wires and matching.
Message-ID: <951212222829_131832479@emout05.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 95-12-11 13:09:53 EST,
doyler@uh2297p01.daytonoh.attgis.com (Doyle, Ron) writes:

>I have been thinking of taking

>a end fed wire in the form of a J-pole. This would allow me to use the
>matching part as part of the lead in. I have enough 300 ohm twinlead to
>make the matching stub and wire to make the 1/2 wave end fed wire. Remember

>the goal here is to make something quick, easy, and needing no tuning once
>out in the field so I don't have to lug along a tuner and swr meter, it's
>going to be hard enough getting the radio and battery past those guard
>stations in the airports.

>

>Now the question. How can I find the right place to attach the coax to the
>300 ohm twinlead. One antenna book I have indicates that I could connect it

>to the bottom end but experience with vhf j-poles says it up from the bottom

>some. Is there a formula to figure this out?

>

>I know this will make a one band antenna but the fox is only on one band and

>that is my goal right now.

Ron, my two cents:

Remember that VHF J antennas use one radiator of approximately 1/4 wavelength
in parallel with another of 3/4 wavelength. Since there aren't any radials
on most VHF J designs, the match can vary a little from location to location,
or vary with how the antenna is mounted.

In an HF band J antenna, the antenna will be much closer to nearby objects
such as walls and roofs in QRP/P (portable) or QRP/C (covert) installations,
so it might be even harder to achieve a match in each new location or if the
roof gets wet, etc.

I've heard people threaten to maim each other over which leg of the J should
go to the coax center, it doesn't matter though more builders prefer to put
the 3/4 wavelength rod on the coax center connection.

I don't know the formula for J matching, but have seen two types:

A: The 1/4 and 3/4 wave radiators are shorted together at the bottom and the
feed (coax or balun) is moved up/down the radiators for best match.

B: The 1/4 and 3/4 wave radiators do not short together, instead one is
connected to

the center of an SO-239 or female BNC or N connector, the other
radiator connected to the shield side. The antenna spacing and
length is varied for best match. I have built these for cheapie
VHF/UHF antennas when I did not want to

solder 4 radials and 1 radiator to the SO-239.

The impedance at the bottom of the J is low, and goes higher as you "slide"

towards the top. You'll see that in J's fed with coax, the feedpoint is lower on the antenna than in those fed with broadband or tuned baluns (200 ohms).

If your HF J antenna is hard to match directly in each new site and you want another good balanced line antenna, you might try cutting a G5RV or half-size G5RV for the band you will use. Also, I have seen some ARRL articles which showed folded dipoles (300 ohm) with 300 ohm feed but a matching stub on the feeder and a random length coax under that to the shack.

Gain? Close to 0 dbD or 2.1 dbi. VHF and UHF J's are very similar in radiation pattern to a center-fed halfwave dipole. The end-feed may tilt the antenna pattern (the J assumed to be vertical) up or down a little.

73, Jay (no relation)
WB6AAM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [1282] Re: RG-8X
Message-ID: <199512131537.IAA09882@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

Specs for RG-8X (Belden 9258):
Center conductor AWG-16 bare copper 19/29 stranding, dia. .056
Insulation foam polyethylene, .155" dia.
95% shielding
Black or white PVC jacket, .242" dia. O.D.
Z=50 ohms, 78% velocity factor, 26pF per foot.
Attenuation per 100 feet= 1dB at 10MHz, 2.5dB at 50MHz, 3.7dB at 100MHz.

It is a comparable coax for HF work, but attenuation at 50 and 100MHz is a bit higher than RG-8 or RG-8A, but about the same or less than most flavors of RG-58. In short, it should work well at 6M, if you don't have a mile and half run!

Paul NA5N

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: cebik@UTKVX.UTCC.UTK.EDU
Subject: [1277] Re: Saga of QRP Vanity Plates
Message-ID: <Pine.PMDF.3.91.951213074416.543759610D-100000@utkvx.utk.edu>

Joe,

Save this story! Send it to your governor and congress-folk and state legislators.

But next time, tell each bureaucrat involved that you work for one of those network prime time news programs and that the situation would make a great feature.

-73-
LB, W4RNL

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [1298] Re: wire for wire antenna
Message-ID: <199512132204.PAA23405@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

Arjen,
When traveling, I have used dipoles made of #26 wire wrap wire with teflon insulation fed with mini RG-174 coax with good success. #30 solid is the standard wire wrap wire, which inspite of the teflon jacketting, is still kinda fragile and prone to snap. #26 solid is used for wrapping to switches, connectors, etc. where more durability is needed, and is significantly stronger. Black #26 wire wrap wire is almost impossible to see in the air, even in broad sunlight.

I have also made dipoles from #22 stranded hook-up wire and the same RG-174 mini-coax. Both versions can be rolled up and stored in a sandwich bag. By the way, I use dental floss to string up the dipole. You can get several hundred feet (100M) of the stuff for less than a buck. It is also almost invisable up in the air.

Paul NA5N

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Thu Dec 14 03:11:00 1995
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: [1300] RE: wire for wire antenna
Message-ID: <n1393249120.55069@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

Arjen, and group,
Most references say it makes little to no difference if the antenna is insulated wire at HF, and it may shorten the dipole resonant length a little, but only if the insulation were a significantly larger diameter relative to the wire so as to present a bigger dielectric constant effect, would it affect your antenna.

And insulated twisted pair feed was popular for dipoles in the 30's I have been told, before coax was common, and when ladder line was wide spaced homemade stuff. Thus, I can see no problem but as I always say, you could model it by making a sample VHF antenna for some band you can operate, or even a 10M model before investing in wire for lower bands. The teflon is liable to make the wire a bit stiff, but that is from my own use of teflon over insulation on teflon heavy twisted pair military wire. The other thing I have noticed with very thin gauge teflon hook up wire, it was so slick, that when I tried to twist it by hand to make a short jumper, it would unravel. Perhaps, if twisted with an electric drill, while the other ends are locked in a workbench vise, you could get a twist to set into the feed portion.

Please let us know how it works for you.

72, Stuart K5KVH

rohre@arlut.utexas.edu